

Welcome to

FAMILY FOCUS

Especially for families and friends of deployed soldiers. Information, events, and programs brought to you by Tobyhanna Army Depot Army Community Service.

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WHAT'S NEW?

Do You Know Your Child Abuse Prevention “ABC’s?”

Heather Fiedler, M.A., NCP, LPC



Are you aware of the ABC’s of child abuse prevention? “A” stands for “assess.” Assess the situation, don’t be afraid to ask a question. If you feel uncomfortable with a situation involving a child, make an assessment. Are the actions of the adult interacting with the child appropriate? If not, move to “B”, which is “become involved.”

Becoming involved does not mean placing yourself in danger or at-risk. Becoming involved can simply mean calling the authorities, or Children and Youth Services, or the Family Advocacy Program Manager. Becoming involved can also mean spending time with a child and getting to know her or him. Involving yourself in a child’s life can mean many things, but most importantly it means being involved.

As a result of your involvement in a child’s life, there are “C” or “consequences”. There are consequences for becoming involved in a child’s life. One such consequence can be that a child will trust you and tell you things that s/he will not confide in anyone else. Another consequence is that a child will learn from you – learn how to listen to others, respect him or herself and others, and learn how to become a successful adult.

For more information on the ABC’s of child abuse prevention, please call the Family Advocacy Program Manager at 895-7509.

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Army Family Team Building

Army Family Team Building classes are now in session! Our classes are from Level 1 & Level 2. Some of our classes being offered include some of the following:

Military Terms and Acronyms
Customs and Courtesies, the Chain of Command, and the Chain of Concern.
Introduction to military and Civilian Community Resources
Benefits, Entitlements, and Compensation
Family and Military Expectations

Army Family Team Building is a global and educational program whose primary objective is to improve the overall readiness of the force by teaching and promoting personal and family readiness through standardized, progressive, and sequential education of family members; however the program can be used flexibly to meet the needs of the individual audience.

For dates on scheduled classes and locations, keep an eye out for future mail-outs. For more information, or to sign up for classes contact Audrey DiNardo or Melissa Rhodes @ 570-895-8877.

REMEMBER FRG'S WE CAN COME TO YOU!!!!!!!

Spring Into Fashion

Army Community Service and Youth Services will be presenting a Spring Fashion Show on Friday, April 23rd at the Landing. The fashion show models will showcase the latest spring and summer styles for children, teen, women, and men from school and casual attire to formal wear. Clothing and accessories will be provided by stores throughout our community

By doing this fashion show we are hoping to kick off the Youth Sponsorship Program and promote a Healthy Body Image. Both of these concepts will be highlighted throughout the show.

A family dinner will be served at 1730 and the Fashion Show will begin at 1900. If you have any questions or would like to RSVP please contact: Sonya Walls @ 570-895-6682 or Heather Fiedler @ 570-895-7509.

DID YOU KNOW?

Deployed Troops Can Earn Guaranteed 10 Percent Interests on Savings

A Department of Defense program helps deployed troops tuck up to \$10,000 of their income away and earn a guaranteed 10 percent interest on their savings annually. Troops can participate in the Savings Deposit Program if they are assigned outside the United States and receiving Hostile Fire and Imminent Danger Pay. Service members must serve 30 consecutive days in that assignment before making deposits into the fund. Nearly 10,000 Soldiers are currently participating in the program, said Roger Castillo, the program manager for the Savings Deposit Program. The last day to make a deposit into the fund is the date of departure from theater. However interest will accrue up to 90 days after redeployment unless a withdrawal is requested, according to a DFAS fact sheet.

To learn more, see http://www.military.com/NewsContent/0,13319,usa4_030404.00.html.

Or visit the DFAS Website at <http://www.dfas.mil>

SURVEY BY NFMA

Military families know a heightened pace of operations means increased challenges on the home front. The National Military Family Association has embarked on a project to get input from families about deployment-related issues and about the support families received from their host installations and the civilian communities from Sept 11, 2001 - Dec. 31, 2003.

NMFA has assembled a team to gather information, to include visiting installations to meet with focus groups. The team composed an ONLINE SURVEY to gather input and encourages family members to visit: www.nmfa.org

The survey team will collect data through April, then analyze it and publish a report, along with recommendations on lessons learned, best practices, and further improvements needed to help family members. Copies will be given to defense and service officials, lawmakers and other.

“Courage is resistance to fear, mastery of fear--not absence of fear.”
—Mark Twain

Family Focus is published monthly by Sonya Walls. It is filled with information, events, and programs designed for families and friends of deployed soldiers. .

To subscribe or unsubscribe, please send an e-mail message to Sonya.Walls@tobyhanna.army.mil.

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